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For Immediate Release

20 National Organizations Join with the Black Coalition Against COVID-19 in a Historic Collaborative Effort to Help Stop the Spread of COVID-19 in the Black Community
Groups lock arms in Town Hall to address common questions regarding COVID-19 in the community with science-based answers

WASHINGTON, D.C., January 7, 2021 – The Black Coalition Against COVID-19 (BCAC), with the support of a historic coalition of primarily Black-led health, academic, civic, civil rights and faith organizations, today are joining forces to host BCAC’s first community education-focused town hall of the year as part of its *Making It Plain Series*.

In 2020, BCAC launched *Making It Plain*, a local and national-level series of educational, open-forum virtual town hall conversations powered by coalition member company, Blackdoctor.org. This important initiative was created to connect some of the nation’s top and most trusted COVID-19 experts with the Black community to help provide science-based information about the virus and misinformation around the vaccine development and distribution process.

Since forming in spring of last year, BCAC has grown to include a significant number of allied organizations that are aligned with its mission of helping to save Black lives, particularly from the COVID-19 pandemic. With the addition of those that are supporting today’s town hall, BCAC allied organizations now include the following (asterisk denotes newly added):

100 Black Men of America, Inc.*
African Methodist Episcopal Church*
Blackdoctor.org
Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science
Choose Healthy Life*
City of Chicago*
Council on Black Health*
Howard University
Meharry Medical College
Morehouse School of Medicine
NAACP*
National Black Nurses Association
National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc.*

National Council of Negro Women*

National Medical Association

National Pan-Hellenic Council* (includes: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.; Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.; Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.; Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.; Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.)

National Urban League

Rainbow PUSH Coalition*

The Cobb Institute

The Links, Inc.*

Today's Town Hall event begins at 7 pm EST and can be watched on Blackdoctor.org's [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) accounts. It will be archived thereafter. More information about this event and additional supporting organizations—including U.S. public health agencies—can [be found here](#).

Comments on from Participating Leaders:

"As a practicing family physician, I believe it's imperative that we do all we can as a united community to fight this pandemic that has resulted in a death rate for Black people that is nearly 3 times higher than White people" said Dr. Leon McDougle, President of the National Medical Association and BCAC member. "We have always been the trusted source of health information for our communities and we remain committed to providing the best expert science and facts to help people make the best health choices for themselves, their families."

"As leaders in the Black church, it is our responsibility to advocate for the health and survival of our community, provide our communities with accurate information and guide society at large to a place of moral well-being," said Rev. Calvin O. Butts III, co-chair of Choose Healthy Life and Pastor at Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York City.

"Black fraternities, sororities and social organizations are important pillars of the Black community," said Dr. David Marion, Chairman of the Council of Presidents, the National Pan-Hellenic Council. "All of my colleagues who have come together in this initiative do so because our missions and humanity necessitate us to come together during this time of peril. We hope that the information provided in this Town Hall will not only educate but inspire the actions necessary to save our lives."

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About the Black Coalition Against COVID-19 (BCAC)

The Black Coalition Against COVID-19 is a Washington, D.C.-based community initiative which seeks to provide trustworthy, science-based, information curated on behalf of and for the Black community about COVID-19 and the vaccine development process in an effort to help save Black lives at the national and local levels. For more information about BCAC, visit blackcoalitionagainstcovid.org. Follow BCAC on Twitter at [@BCAgainstCOVID](https://twitter.com/BCAgainstCOVID) and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BCAC1.